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Inside the International Affairs Budget

Secretary Clinton's letter to Appropriations Committee Chairman Rogers

WASHINGTON, DC, Feb. 14, 2011 – "I am writing regarding the House Appropriations Committee's proposed spending levels for State and foreign operations in fiscal year 2011. Our estimate of the Committee's allocation for the State Department and USAID amounts to a 16 percent reduction from our actual FY 2010 funding, and a 19 percent cut to our 2011 request. The bill further proposes to cut our humanitarian assistance accounts 41 percent from 2010 levels.



Cuts of this magnitude will be devastating to our national security, will render us unable to respond to unanticipated disasters, and will damage our leadership around the world." [Read More](#)

Briefings and Remarks

WASHINGTON, DC, Feb. 14, 2011 – Secretary Clinton delivers brief remarks to the press, in the U.S. Capitol, following her meeting with Speaker Boehner. [Video](#)

WASHINGTON, DC, Feb. 14, 2011 – Deputy Secretary Nides briefs the press on the Department of State's 2012 budget request, in the Press Briefing Room at the State Department. [Video](#)

WASHINGTON, DC, Jan. 6, 2011 – Conversations with America: Leading through Civilian Power: The First QDDR. [Full Text and Video](#)

Additional Resources

[Foreign Affairs Dashboard](#) – The new Foreign Assistance Dashboard is a user-friendly way to find key State and USAID foreign assistance budget and appropriation data, that you can manually query, filter, and download.

[OMB Fact Sheet on the Federal Budget, Fiscal Year FY 2012 - Department of State and Other International Programs](#)

[Fact Sheet: State and USAID - Core Budget](#)

[Fact Sheet: State and USAID - Overseas Contingency Operations](#)

[FY 2012 Executive Budget Summary - Function 150 and Other International Programs](#)

Secretary Clinton and Admiral Mullen Address the First Global Chiefs of Mission Conference

WASHINGTON, DC, February 3 – Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen addressed U.S. ambassadors at the first ever all-hands-on-deck ambassadorial conference. A principal aim of the conference was to discuss the recently released [Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review \(QDDR\)](#) – which seeks to answer “How can we do better” for the American people by getting the most out of every dollar invested in State and USAID.



Speaking to ambassadors, both Secretary Clinton and Chairman Mullen emphasized the centrality of civilian leadership – and resources – to meeting the challenges of the 21st century:

“We’re going to be looking to see how we can advance America’s interests and values on security, on climate change, on boosting exports and rebalancing the global economy on all of our core priorities. But I will hasten to say we face a very difficult budget climate . . . This month, even though we are submitting an FY 2012 request that is a lean budget for lean times, we don’t even know what our 2011 levels are. And there is a great deal of push coming from the new Congress, particularly the House, to cut State and USAID to 2008 levels despite the fact that we are about to inherit an overwhelming responsibility in Iraq, which, if you did the math, the military would not be spending \$41 billion and we would be asking to increase our budget by 4 billion, which sounds to me like a pretty good tradeoff . . . Now, we have scrubbed our budget for every dollar of savings, and we have made very hard choices, and I ask you to help us. You can save money in your mission. You can change the way you’re doing things to be more efficient and cost effective . . . But we have to keep doing more . . .” **Secretary Clinton** - [Full Text and Video](#)

“I really think we have got to get the State Department budget right. And this has nothing to do with the past – again, it has everything to do with the future – we took too much money away. And when you take money away from the State Department, more than anything else, you take people away. Because in our terms, people are your main battery, your main effort. And so having a robust enough budget to be able to meet the needs of our times is absolutely mandatory.” **Chairman Mullen** - [Full Text and Video](#)

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